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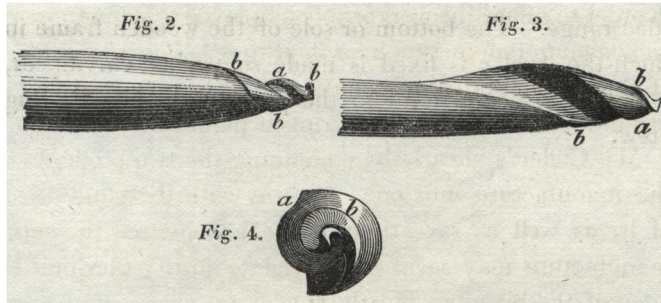


Fig. 1 a front view of the bowl of the boring-bit; *aa* the cutting edge; *bb* a thread or fin winding round the back, which acts as a screw to draw the bit into the wood. Fig. 2 a back view, showing the thread *bbb*. Fig. 3 a side view, and fig. 4 an end view.

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### No. III.

#### TAG SHEARS.

*The SILVER VULCAN MEDAL was this session presented to Mr. T. COLLETT, Upper Greystoke-place, Fetter-lane, for his Tag Shears; a model of which has been placed in the Society's repository.*

A TAG is the bit of thin tin-plate which is fixed to the end of a lace. The usual way of making these is, first to cut the tin plate into pieces of a proper size, by means of shears; secondly, to take each piece separately and bend it to the required form, by hammering it on a fluted mould.

These processes must be got through with great rapidity,

in order to afford the workpeople employed (chiefly women) an adequate remuneration for their time. The sharp edges of the tin are perpetually cutting their fingers, thus delaying the work as well as rendering it painful.

Mr. Collett's shears, by combining the two processes of the manufacture into one, do away with the painful part of it, as well as save time. To many persons the entire manufacture may seem too trivial to justify the interference of the Society; but those who are aware of the immense number of tags annually made and consumed will be of a different opinion.

A side view of the shears, or rather the jaws of them, is represented (Plate II. fig. 7) and the figure to the right hand is a front view of the same at right angles to the former, the corresponding parts in each being marked, not only by the same letters of reference but by dotted horizontal lines drawn from one to the other. The figures above the bracket line are sections of the parts separate.

The upper part of the lower jaw *g* is a groove, the interior longitudinal side of which forms one of the cutting edges of the shears: the piece *h* is screwed to the upper jaw *i*, and is rounded at the bottom, so as to fit the groove in the lower jaw. The piece *k* is screwed to the lower jaw; it is flat at top, and extends parallel to the exterior side of the groove. The slip of tin plate to be cut into a tag enters between the jaws of the shears from the side opposite to that shown in fig. 7, that is, from right to left, as shown in the front view, and is laid upon the piece *k*, projecting as far as the outer edge of this piece. The jaws are then closed, in consequence of which the tag is cut off by means of the sharp edge in each jaw, while at the same time the piece *h*, entering the groove in the

lower jaw, presses down the intervening piece of tin, and thus gives it the form of a hollow semi-cylinder, in which state it is ready to receive the end of the lace. Thus, by merely closing the shears, the tag is not merely cut off but receives the necessary degree of curvature.

The instrument has been in use for some time by a manufacturer, and is found to produce four times as many tags as can be made in a given time by the usual way.

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No. IV.

BLIND FOR CIRCULAR-HEADED WINDOWS.

*The SILVER VULCAN MEDAL was this session presented to Mrs. HENRY GOODE, of Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, for her Blind for circular-headed Windows; a model of which has been placed in the Society's repository.*

SEMICIRCULAR windows, and rectangular windows with semicircular heads, are common in modern churches and chapels, and in most rooms for public meetings, as well as occurring occasionally in private houses. In the square parts of such windows, blinds of various well known constructions are inserted, in order to exclude, when necessary, the rays of the sun; but the heads are either left without blinds, or are fitted with awkward and imperfect contrivances to effect the desired object. Mrs. Goode's blind answers its purpose very effectually, and is both neater than any other, as well as sufficiently simple to recommend itself to general adoption.